

Sharon A. Schmitz '68

retired from the U.S. Air Force with the rank of Master Sergeant. She is currently president of CTM-Kool, Inc., a consortium of Gulf Coast artists in Bradenton, FL.

William D. Marcum '72

celebrated his 34th anniversary working with Albertsons, Inc. this past September. After graduating from MJC he went on to graduate from Florida State University in 1976 with a degree in accounting and finance. He and his wife Bonnie live in Valrico, FL. They are the proud parents of Lindsey (USF) and Daryl (FSU). He tells us his favorite faculty member was Dr. Steve Korcheck.

Linda Stewart Tucker '72

is a self employed singer. She lives in Parrish, FL.

Wayne A. Minton '73,

now retired, tells us that after 35 years working as a nurse for a dermatology clinic, he's enjoying the sunshine and the beach. His favorite faculty member was Nancy Heckert. Wayne resides in Bradenton, FL with his wife Wendy. He sends a message to his RN class of 1973 - let's have a nursing reunion!

Patricia Brown Zalo '73

is a teacher and Department Chair with the School District of Manatee County. She earned her Bachelor's degree in microbiology and a Master's Degree in Middle School Math/Science Curriculum from the University of South Florida. In 2005 she was awarded the Science Teacher of the Year by the Florida Association of Science Teachers. She serves as the Director of the Florida Junior Academy of Sciences.

Sally Evans Bayer '74

retired from Sarasota County in 2004 as Criminal Justice Policy Coordinator. Prior to this position she served as Director of the Manatee County Jail; worked for four years as a consultant for the Florida Department of Corrections and ten years as Manager of Training for Orange County Corrections Division. Sally and her husband Peter reside in Sarasota, FL.

Suzanne Friend Whelan '78

of Sarasota works for Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation, Inc. She tells us her favorite faculty member was Mass Communication/Journalism professor Wanda Yarrow.

Kimberly Stivers Harrell '80

has been working for 29 years as a critical care nurse. Since 2001 she has worked in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, FL where she has also been on the Transport Team. Previous to this she worked 20 years in the ER, ICU and PACU with Manatee Memorial Hospital; relocated to Wyoming where she worked in ICU and Nursery. She has lectured nationally on Transport of the Child. She and her husband Michael reside in Bradenton, FL.

Steven Duranceau '81

is Professor of Environmental Engineering and Nanoscience at the University of Central Florida. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Florida State University and his doctorate in Environmental Engineering from the University of Central Florida. He lives in Orlando, FL.

Carol Howard '84

is Associate Dean for Faculty and Professor of English at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, NC. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Literature from the State University of New York at Purchase followed by two master's degrees and a Ph.D. in English and Comparative Literature from Columbia University. She lives in Black Mountain, NC.

Glenn Leonberger '84

is Project Manager for MLT Vacations in Minnesota. He is active in both acting and administration of Eagan Community Theater; has spent over 18 years with the Oratorio Society of Minnesota where he had the opportunity to sing with Doc Severinsen and Rosemary Clooney. Glenn is Commissioner of the 900+ member Steelers Fans of Minnesota whose food drives have collected money and food for local food shelves for the past 14 years. He tells us his 1984 Joe Fant Award plaque hangs proudly in his den as a constant reminder of his time at MJC. Glenn and his wife Laura live in Eagan, MN.

Calbert Hyland '85

works for the State of Tennessee as a Programmer/Analyst 4. After earning his degree in Computer Systems/Fire Science from MCC he earned a Bachelor's degree from the University of South Florida. He and his wife Nancy reside in Lebanon, TN.

Tina Hughes Roberts '88

has been working as a registered nurse for the past 20 years in Pediatrics, specializing in Neonatal Intensive Care, Outpatient Surgery, Allergy and Immunology, Primary Care and Emergency Department Telephone Triage. She is currently working for East Tennessee Children's Hospital. She lives in Kodak, TN.

Lionel Guilbert '94

is Operations Supervisor for Communications and Access Control with the Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Everglades University. He and his wife Agnes reside in Sarasota, FL.

Alphonso Johnson '95

of Bradenton, FL completed his Bachelor's degree at the University of South Florida. He has also earned a CDL license and is currently enrolled in a Construction Management degree program at SCF.

Jeannie Black Griffis '96

is a registered nurse/clinical director with Tidewell Hospice. She lives in Bradenton, FL.

Jaime Wharton '04

is a Web Production Specialist with Saint Leo University. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Graphic Design from California State University, East Bay and is enrolled in a Masters of Business in Sports Business at Saint Leo University. She resides in Tampa, FL.

Linda Cooper '05

Linda Cooper attended college on a Selby Scholarship. "All of my application letters stated that I wanted to write this book," she explained.

She credits Dr. Douglas Ford as one of the most influential faculty members in her career. He taught African-American Literature. "He was a fabulous teacher, and opened up the beauty there," Cooper remembers. She saw similarities in African-American literature to the life she made growing up in Florida.

Cooper was born in Bradenton, and when she was a high school junior her family moved to Lakeland where she lived until 2001. "Growing up, 'college' was not even in the vocabulary. I was already 30, married and had two children when I went to technical school for optometric assisting."

When she was at the technical school, an instructor asked them all, "If you could do anything and be a success what would it be? I said I'd be a writer. I always knew." Yet for the next 15 years she worked at a large clinic and raised her daughters, all while thinking of her story and how difficult it was to tell.

After graduating from MCC, she started writing. It took five years to get there. During that time she was hired by the *Herald Tribune* newspaper as an account executive. Her book, *She Ain't My Sister*, tells the difficult tale of Molly, the name she called herself. It is the story of four children given up for adoption and the years of abuse they endured. In the words of her editor, Laurie Rosin, "On one hand *She Ain't My Sister* is a frightening book and on the other, a hopeful one. It is very, very powerful."

"My daughter said she couldn't breathe for the first 100 pages," Linda commented. "I tell people to keep reading. Get past the first 100 pages."

Cooper wants to use the book and her life story to inspire others. "My life is a message. Statistically, I never should have been anything. I never knew, standing as a scared little girl in front of that house in Bradenton, that someday I'd go to Manatee Community College."

She credits going to the College with helping her achieve her goal, "It's not too late to change your career. Don't focus on the money, go for the dream."

Kevin Buote '06

of Cleveland GA writes that he lives in the beautiful northeast Georgia mountains with his four children ages 16, 15, 12 and 9. He works for White County E911 as a Communications Supervisor and is studying Emergency Management and Public Safety Telecommunications at Jacksonville State University.

William Clayson '90

of Las Vegas, NV is a professor of History at the College of Southern Nevada. Following his graduation from MCC he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Las Vegas and went on to earn a Ph.D. in History from Texas Tech University.

John DeLesline '90

is President of DeLesline Construction, Inc. in Palmetto, FL. After graduating from MCC he earned two Bachelor degrees from the University of South Florida. He and his wife Monica live in Terra Ceia, FL.

